

BECOMING A NAVY OFFICER

A path to professional leadership



AMERICA'S
NAVY
FORGED BY THE SEA

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NAVY OFFICER

America's Navy employs the most highly qualified and talented men and women in the country. Each is a true professional in every sense of the word, holding to the highest standards in their everyday lives.



OFFICER TYPES

In order to know what it means to be a Navy Officer, it helps to understand the various types of Navy Officers.

Unrestricted Line Officer

These Officers are not restricted in the performance of duty and are eligible to command ships, submarines, aircraft squadrons, fleets and shore bases. Jobs in this category include Surface Warfare Officers, Pilots, Navy Flight Officers, Aviation Support Officers, Submarine Officers and Officers in Naval Special Warfare/Naval Special Operations. They are commissioned through Officer Candidate School, the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps or the Naval Academy.

Restricted Line Officer

These Officers are designated for duties in aviation, engineering, aerospace engineering or special duty. Jobs include Aviation Maintenance Officers, Specialists in Cryptographic Support, Intelligence, Automatic Data Processing, Public Affairs and Oceanography. They are commissioned through Officer Candidate School, Officer Development School, the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps or the Naval Academy.



Staff Corps Officer

These are specialists in career fields that are professions unto themselves, such as physicians, nurses, chaplains, lawyers, civil engineers, etc. They are commissioned through Officer Development School or the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Limited-Duty Officer

These are former Enlisted Sailors who are commissioned based on extensive training and experience in their jobs. They are limited to performing their duties within their specific field.

While there are those who are born leaders, they still must acquire the skills and knowledge it takes to lead.

At Officer Candidate School (OCS) and Officer Development School (ODS) – as well as through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) or the Naval Academy – exceptional men and women hone their leadership skills to form a strong foundation for a successful career as a Navy Officer.



NAVY OFFICER

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL

The 13-week OCS course at Naval Station Newport in Rhode Island is designed to give you a working knowledge of the Navy (afloat and ashore), to prepare you to assume the responsibilities of a Naval Officer, and to begin developing you to your fullest potential. The training is extremely demanding, both mentally and physically. Upon successful completion of OCS, you will be commissioned as a Navy Officer.

During your training period, you will be instructed on leadership, receive physical and military training, and study academics related to the command of ships and submarines.



Academics

During your time at OCS, you'll receive instruction in:

- Naval Leadership
- Naval Administration
- Naval Organization
- Sea Power
- Military Law
- Military Indoctrination
- Naval Warfare
- Damage Control
- Seamanship
- Division Officer
- Special Emphasis Program

You will also receive leadership training through the Division Officer Leadership Course, which is held during the last two weeks of the course.

Physical Training

On your fourth week of training you will be required to pass a second Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) with a score of Satisfactory-Medium.

Physical training will entail running four days a week and strength and conditioning exercises two days a week. Your run distance will be 1.5 miles for the first four weeks, and then will jump to three miles for the final eight weeks. All running is on paved roads.

Please Note: It pays to be in peak physical condition when reporting for OCS.

OFFICER DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL

Officer Development School (ODS) is a five-week program located at Naval Station Newport in Rhode Island. ODS trains already-commissioned Officers who are pursuing careers in a specific field of study such as nuclear engineering, chaplaincy, oceanography or health care.

ODS offers newly commissioned Officers a comprehensive and intense introduction to their responsibilities as Navy Staff Corps Officers. Here, they learn about the military structure of the U.S. Navy, its rich history of traditions and customs, leadership development, and military etiquette.

In short, it covers all you need to know to begin an Officer career filled with endless opportunities. Generous benefits. And the chance to make a difference in the world.



Academics

During your five weeks at ODS, you'll receive instruction in:

- Naval Leadership
- Naval Administration
- Naval Organization
- Sea Power
- Military Law
- Military Indoctrination
- Naval Warfare
- Damage Control
- Seamanship
- Division Officer
- Special Emphasis Program

You will also receive leadership training through the Division Officer Leadership Course, which is held during the last two weeks of the course.

Physical Training

While at ODS, you will complete three Physical Readiness Tests (PRTs) – In PRT, Mid PRT and Out PRT.

Physical training will include two to three days of strength and conditioning exercises, which include push-ups, sit-ups and various other exercises.

You will run three to four days a week. For the first two weeks, you will run approximately 1.5 miles each run day. During weeks three through five, you will run approximately three miles each run day. All running is on paved roads.

Please Note: It pays to be in peak physical condition when reporting for ODS.

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NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

The Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) aims to develop college students morally, mentally, and physically, and to instill in them the highest ideals of honor, courage and commitment. The program educates and trains young men and women for leadership positions in an increasingly technical Navy and Marine Corps.

The NROTC Program is available at more than 160 colleges and universities. Selected applicants are awarded scholarships through a highly competitive national selection process, and receive full tuition and other financial benefits at many of the country's leading colleges and universities.

Academics

In addition to a normal course load, NROTC students also receive instruction in:

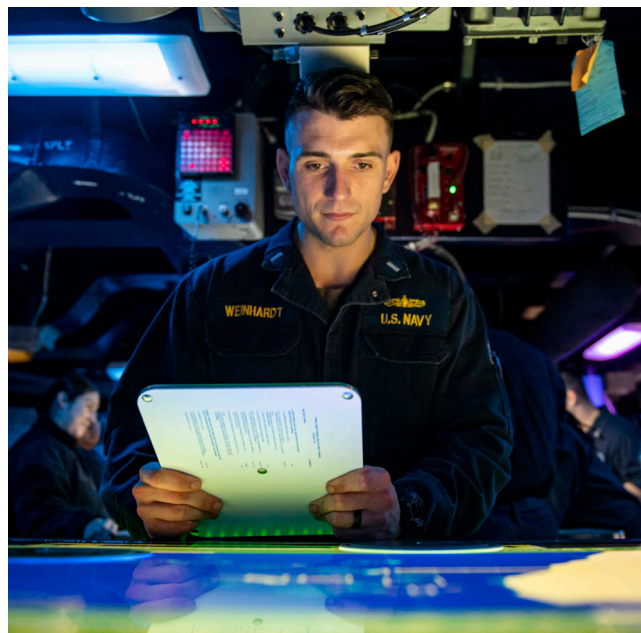
- Introduction to Naval Science
- Sea Power and Maritime Affairs
- Leadership and Management
- Navigation
- Naval Ship Systems I (Engineering)
- Evolution of Warfare
- Naval Ship Systems II (Weapons Systems)
- Naval Operations and Seamanship
- Leadership and Ethics
- Evolution of Amphibious Warfare
- Senior Naval Science Seminar
- Special Emphasis Program

Physical Training

Throughout their college experience, NROTC students participate in regular physical training exercises.

NAVAL ACADEMY

The United States Naval Academy (USNA) is another way to become an Officer in the Navy. For details about this path, visit usna.edu.



READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS?

Once you're inspired, better informed and seriously interested, here's how to proceed:

1. TALK TO YOUR RECRUITER

- Ask questions
- Discuss your long-term goals
- Review your qualifications
- Go over relevant financial incentives, bonuses and educational assistance programs

2. APPLY FOR THE POSITION

- Provide personal information that includes: birth certificate, Social Security card, college transcripts and professional and licensure details (if applicable)
- Pass a full medical examination
- Participate in a precommitment interview

3. BEGIN YOUR TRAINING

- If you have a college degree, attend either ODS or OCS.
- If you're pursuing your degree, train concurrently with the NROTC.
- If you have a college degree and you're joining the Navy Reserve, attend ODS.

NOTES

